

**PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

January 20, 2006, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Wisconsin Medical Society, 330 East Lakeside Street, Madison, WI

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 20, 2006

Committee Members in Attendance: Ayaz Samadani (Chair); Sandy Anderson (Vice-Chair) (by teleconference); John Bartkowski (Vice-Chair) (by teleconference); Gary Gilmore (Secretary) (by teleconference); Bevan Baker; Richard Perry (by teleconference); Jeanan Yasiri (by teleconference); JoAnn Weidmann (by teleconference); Julie Willems Van Dijk (by teleconference)

Absent Committee Members: Stephan Hargarten

Division of Public Health Staff: Herb Bostrom, Deputy Administrator; Patricia Guhleman; Stacia Jankowski

Call to Order

Dr. Ayaz Samadani called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Dr. Gary Gilmore made a motion to approve the minutes for December 2 as written, which was seconded by Julie Willems Van Dijk. The motion passed unopposed.

Administration

Nominating Committee

Stacia Jankowski reported that the Nominating Committee had met and finalized a slate of candidates for the meeting in February. The slate includes nominations for Dr. Samadani and Ms. Willems Van Dijk for chair, John Bartkowski and Sandy Anderson for vice chair, and Dr. Gilmore and JoAnn Weidmann for Secretary. Ms. Anderson asked if it was too late to remove herself from consideration for vice chair. Ms. Jankowski offered to bring this to the attention of the Nominating Committee for revision of the slate of candidates.

Dr. Samadani reported that the Committee discussed holding the vote by e-mail in order to insure inclusion of all members. He requested that the curriculum vitae of all candidates be included in the e-mail and that votes be returned quickly. The Executive Committee supported this request.

Process for distribution of the semi-annual report

The Committee discussed the distribution of this report. It was decided that a letter of introduction from Dr. Samadani should be included and the report then submitted to Governor Doyle and Secretary Nelson for review. Ms. Jankowski will prepare a draft of the letter for within the next week for Dr. Samadani's review.

Communication with other councils

Dr. Samadani reported that he had participated in an emergency preparedness event. This event primarily focused on emergency evacuation and avian influenza, particularly concerning special populations. Dr. Gilmore asked if there was any discussion regarding coordination across systems. Herb Bostrom offered to make the report about the event available to the Council once it is ready.

Membership updates

Dr. Samadani reported that Dr. Kurt Reed had resigned from the Council as the result of accepting a new position at Marshfield Laboratory Services with increased responsibilities. Dr. Reed offered to advise the Council occasionally on issues relevant to him. The Governor's Office is working to identify a replacement

member. Mr. Baker expressed his desire to maintain the Council's connection to Marshfield Clinic.

Committee issues

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Dr. Samadani noted that with Dr. Reed's departure, the position of chair for the Emergency Preparedness Committee is vacant. Ms. Anderson said that physician representation is important in the Emergency Preparedness Committee. Dr. Samadani said he will work to identify a chair for this committee.

The Committee discussed the fact that there is no system in place when a committee chair departs. Richard Perry said that was the reason that he asked the State Health Plan Committee to appoint a co-chair (currently Ms. Weidmann).

State Health Plan Committee

Mr. Perry reported that the State Health Plan Committee recommends to the Council that it conduct an annual review of its processes to ensure that each committee is accomplishing the goals as set forth by the Council. He reported that although priorities are identified in the charter of each committee, he was concerned about whether these should be worked through to completion or if they needed to be reevaluated to determine their relative value based on current circumstances. Dr. Gilmore agreed that an annual review of the accomplishments of each committee may highlight existing and emerging issues and help to develop a long-term strategic plan. Dr. Samadani said that the committees should continue to suggest such changes as they arise.

Mr. Perry asked if there was an established process for nominating new committee members. He said that the State Health Plan Committee has requested that a minority member be included. Dr. Samadani replied that it was the responsibility of the committee chair to appoint new members as needed. A discussion followed about the inclusion of more members versus pulling in experts as the need arose. Mr. Baker and Dr. Gilmore expressed their understanding that each committee would have a core group that would be supplemented and augmented by membership from outside organizations as the need arose. Ms. Anderson also noted that by bringing members in as needed, these individuals will bring their expert opinion to the Council and begin to communicate on behalf of the Council regarding its efforts.

Mr. Perry raised the concern about funding being made available for each committee. He noted that without an established budget, it is difficult for the committees to establish the scope of work. Mr. Bostrom said that although the Council does not come with a budget, Patricia Guhleman can work to identify a funding source and establish an estimate for each committee. Mr. Bostrom will then approach Sheri Johnson about identifying these funds on an ongoing basis.

Discussion Items

Material for WPHA conference

Dr. Samadani said that he has been asked to speak at the 2006 Wisconsin Public Health Association meeting to provide an overview of the Council. He plans to have a presentation and handout for this event and requested that any members who have suggestions for what to include send them to him or Ms. Jankowski.

Suggestions for location of April 14 meeting

Ms. Jankowski said that the Council had planned on holding the April meeting in Marshfield, but since Dr. Reed has resigned, there was some question about where this meeting should be held. Dr. Gilmore reported that he may be able to assist in securing a room at Marshfield Clinic for this event through some of his contacts. Ms. Anderson offered to host it at St. Clare Hospital in Baraboo. The Committee discussed the purpose of holding the meeting outside of Madison, and ultimately agreed that it was to engage individuals in the northern half of the state. Dr. Samadani asked that Ms. Jankowski provide three suggestions in e-mail for the Committee to choose from.

Council Agenda

Dr. Gilmore offered to provide a joint presentation with Dr. Patrick Remington on new and emerging collaborations being developed on public health professional preparation and workforce issues. The Committee agreed that this will serve as the report from academic institutions.

Ms. Jankowski said that Dr. Hargarten had e-mailed a request for Nancy Young to provide some information on the plans for a public health institute. Dr. Samadani requested that Ms. Young be asked to provide her presentation handouts to the Committee prior to the meeting and that 20 minutes be set aside for this topic. Ms. Willems Van Dijk asked if the Department would have comments on this issue. Mr. Bostrom reported that he could not commit to this for the February meeting, but would consider it for a future meeting. Mr. Bostrom offered to provide a framework for how a public health institute is relevant to the Council.

Mr. Baker asked that the draft legislation regarding the Family Planning Waiver be considered for discussion. This legislation proposes changing the eligibility criteria from 15 years of age to 17, which could have a significant impact in terms of teen pregnancies and reproductive health. Dr. Samadani asked that this be included on the agenda as an informational item.

Mr. Baker also asked that the implementation of the Medicare Part D drug program be addressed, particularly in light of the barrier this could cause to obtaining life-sustaining prescription medication for some elderly. Dr. Samadani would like to learn a little more about the program so that the Council could speak to this issue. Mr. Bostrom agreed that a speaker could be identified for this topic.

Ms. Willems Van Dijk asked that a briefing on the new eHealth Care Quality and Patient Safety Board be provided so that the Council can begin to consider any policy implications this may have for public health.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for March 24, 2006, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Wisconsin Medical Society, 330 East Lakeside Street, Madison.

Adjournment

Dr. Samadani adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Recorded by Stacia Jankowski
Bureau of Health Information and Policy